

**DC-STEP: Healthy Infants and Mothers
Program**

Home Safety Observation Data Form

SUBJECT ID LABEL

TODAY'S DATE: |__| |__| - |__| |__| - |__| |__| |__| |__|
mm dd yyyy

ASSESSMENT PERIOD: 2 ☐ Baseline 3 ☐ 6-week 4 ☐ 6-month 5 ☐ 12-month

INTERVIEWER: BE SURE TO OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING ROOMS: (1) ROOM WHERE BABY SLEEPS; (2) ROOM WHERE BABY SPEND MOST OF HIS/HER TIME DURING THE DAY; (3) ROOM WHERE BABY NAPS; (4) MOST USED BATHROOM WITH A TUB OR SHOWER; AND (5) KITCHEN.

1. ROOMS OBSERVED: MARK ALL THAT APPLY AND INDICATE THE MAP # OF THE ROOM

BABY'S BEDROOM 1 → MAP # |__|

MOTHER'S BEDROOM 2 → MAP # |__|

OTHER BEDROOM 3 → MAP # |__|

SPECIFY: _____

LIVING ROOM/FAMILY ROOM 4 → MAP # |__|

KITCHEN 5 → MAP # |__|

BATHROOM* 6 → MAP # |__|

OTHER 7 → MAP # |__|

SPECIFY: _____

2. IF ANY OF THE REQUIRED ROOMS WERE NOT OBSERVED, EXPLAIN BELOW:

-7 ☐ N/A

MOTHER REFUSED 1

ANOTHER HH MEMBER REFUSED 2

NOT ENOUGH TIME AVAILABLE 3

ROOM NOT PRESENT IN HOUSEHOLD 4

OTHER 5

SPECIFY: _____

3. MEASUREMENT OF LARGEST CHILD'S LARGEST EYE LEVEL AND REACH FOR CHILDREN AGES 0-6 YEARS (IF INFANT ONLY, MEASURE AT 33 INCHES FOR EYE LEVEL AND 45 INCHES FOR REACH)

A. EYE LEVEL: |__| |__| INCHES

B. REACH LEVEL: |__| |__|

4. GENERAL COMMENTS/NOTES:

A. POISONOUS HAZARDS (SOLIDS OR LIQUIDS)

-7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE

0 ☐ NO HAZARDS OBSERVED → **SKIP TO SECTION B**

-7 = N/A (not able to observe) 0 = No hazards to observe	Baby's BR	Mother's BR	Other BR	LR/FR	Kitchen	Bath- room	Other	Total # Observed
Tally by Room Observed COUNT THE # OF ...								
1. Accessible and non-child proof pill or medication containers - includes prescription and OTC pills, vitamins, tubes of meds (e.g., bacetracin, topical ointments), inhalers, liquid meds (e.g., eye drops, mouth wash, hydrogen peroxide, iodine, rubbing alcohol, cough syrup), jar meds (e.g., vicks vapo rub, Vaseline), etc. *								_ _ _
2. Accessible alcohol (e.g., beer, wine, any liquor) and/or drugs. **								_ _ _
3. Accessible beauty products (e.g., nail polish remover, cologne, perfume, deodorant, facial makeup, hair products, lotions, creams, bath oils, baby products, etc.). *								_ _ _
4. Accessible detergents, home cleaning supplies, and deodorizers (solid, spray, car, diaper pail, wardrobe, etc), polishes and waxes.. Includes powder, sprays, liquids, aerosols, pastes, oils, etc. DO NOT INCLUDE BAR OF SOAP OR LIQUID SOAP. ***								_ _ _
5. Accessible paints/stains; solvents/thinners; glues/adhesives****								_ _ _
6. Poisonous plants (e.g., oleander, dieffenbachia or dumb cane, narcissus, caladium, hyacinths, solanum or Christmas cherry, mistletoe). (Refer to poisonous plant pictures. If no plants, mark "0").								_ _ _
7. Insecticides, fertilizers, herbicides, rodenticides (include flea dips, moth balls, fly strips)								_ _ _

-7 = N/A (not able to observe) 0 = No hazards to observe	Baby's BR	Mother's BR	Other BR	LR/FR	Kitchen	Bath- room	Other	Total # Observed
Tally by Room Observed COUNT THE # OF ...								
8. Petroleum products (e.g., gasoline, kerosene, lighter fluids, charcoal products, and lubricants). DO NOT INCLUDE VASOLINE OR VICKS VAPOR RUB HERE. REFER TO ITEM #A1 ABOVE.)								_ _ _
9. Other possible poisonous hazards - SPECIFY								_ _ _

***Note:** Do not include toothpaste or tooth powder.

****Note:** Count a six pack or case of beer/wine as = 1 hazard, even if the pack is open.

*****Note:** Include toilet bowl deodorizer, but not if the deodorizer is in the back tank

******Note:** Score even if the lids are tightly fitted, but do NOT include if tapes and glues are labeled as non-toxic.

B. BURN, FIRE AND ELECTRICAL HAZARDS -7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE 0 ☐ NO HAZARDS OBSERVED → SKIP TO SECTION C

-7 = N/A (not able to observe) 0 = No hazards to observe	Baby's BR	Mother's BR	Other BR	LR/FR	Kitchen	Bath- room	Other	Total # Observed
Tally by Room Observed COUNT THE # OF ...								
1. Accessible combustibles (e.g., matches, cigarette lighters, explosives, fireworks, ammunition, or fireplace additives/starters within children's reach)*								
2. Fireplaces, stoves, furnaces, space heaters without properly installed fire doors, protective guards or screens.								____ ____
3. Accessible and uncovered electrical outlets/switches (e.g., missing plates or have improperly installed plates that can allow child's finger to access); and any <u>operational electrical appliances</u> (radios, television, fans, blenders, etc) that are missing protective covers (e.g., a fan with exposed/accessible blades) **								____ ____
4. Accessible or damaged electrical cords/plugs (e.g., dangling in an accessible place, frayed or cracked cords, exposed wires, plugs with missing pans, presence of extension cords)***								____ ____
5. Hot water temperature set above 125 degrees (Turn on hot water, wait a minute, then use thermometer to test water temperature.)								____ ____
6. Radiators with steam or hot water within children's reach								____ ____
7. Other possible burn hazards - SPECIFY								____ ____

* **Note:** One box of matches or a box containing many packs of matches = 1 hazard.

** **Note:** An appliance is defined as operational if it is plugged into an electrical outlet. This may also include small appliances that are unplugged but used frequently. If a potentially accessible hazardous electrical appliance is unplugged, ask participant if the item is used frequently. If yes, then include as a hazard. Be sure to examine the side, back, and front of all accessible appliances.

*** **Note:** DO NOT include stereo SPEAKER wires, cable tv wires, or telephone wires since they carry low electric currents that will not result in shocks. However, DO INCLUDE wires from stereo components (e.g., amplifier, turntable wires) since these wires DO carry high electric currents.

8. Fire alarms*

- a. Total # fire/smoke alarms in house: |____|
- b. Total # non-working fire/smoke alarms in house: |____| -7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE
- c. Total # floors in house with non-working fire/smoke alarm: |____| -7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE

* To check the fire alarm, either use a long pole to reach button or a step ladder to reach it with your finger.

9. Fire extinguishers**

- a. Total # fire extinguishers in house: |____|
- b. Total # fire extinguishers with low pressure in house: |____| 7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE
- c. Total # floors in house with a fire extinguisher of low pressure: |____| -7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE

** To check the pressure, examine the gauge near the handle of the extinguisher. Usually, an arrow will either point to a green area (enough pressure) or red area (not enough pressure).

C. CHOKING/SUFFOCATION/STRANGULATION HAZARDS

-7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE 0 ☐ NO HAZARDS OBSERVED → SKIP TO SECTION D

-7 = N/A (not able to observe) 0 = No hazards to observe	Baby's BR	Mother's BR	Other BR	LR/FR	Kitchen	Bath- room	Other	Total # Observed
Tally by Room Observed COUNT THE # OF ...								
1. Accessible ingestible small objects (e.g., lego pieces, tiny toy soldiers, beans, marbles, pasta, staples) within children's reach (e.g., on floor, in crib, playpen, on low furniture, etc.)*								_ _ _
2. Accessible hazardous mechanical objects- suffocation risks including accessible plastic bags and thin plastic materials (e.g., thin garbage bags, flexible plastic or sheets of flexible plastic such as saran wrap that are within children's reach and large enough to cover both the child's mouth and nose at the same time)**								_ _ _
3. Accessible hazardous mechanical objects – crib cords/strangulation risks (e.g., crib slats 2 3/8 inches (60 mm) apart or less; dangling blind cords or toys/objects above cribs, playpens, other play areas using crib cords or dangling ropes)***								_ _ _
4. Accessible hazardous mechanical objects – other strangulation risks (e.g., other accessible cords such as hanging telephone or appliance cords that are likely to loop around a child's neck)****								_ _ _
5. Pillows, soft bedding including blankets and comforters, stuffed animals, etc. within child's sleeping arrangement (e.g., crib, playpen, etc.) *****								_ _ _
6. Other accessible possible suffocation/choking hazards - SPECIFY								_ _ _

*** Note:** If not sure whether object should be classified as a “small object,” insert the object in the empty toilet paper roll (1 ½” diameter). If the object falls through, then it is considered a “small object” and count as a hazard (if accessible). If many small objects are consolidated into a jar or container (that holds them all in place when tilted), then count as one hazard only.

**** Note:** Do not include plastic bags lining trash cans, plastic items stored in their original container, or plastic bags containing items for storage. If several plastic bags (e.g., grocery bags) are contained within one larger bag, count all bags as one bag.

***** Note:** For infants, count the number of cords accessible to the infant (e.g., in cribs, playpens, or designated areas for sleep or play). Score as a hazard only if family has a crib, playpen or other designated area to contain child during sleep or play. It may be necessary to ask about “designated areas” for sleep or play.

******Note:** This does not include cords that are thick and unlikely to loop around child’s neck, cords that lie on the floor, or cords that are behind furniture or otherwise inaccessible.

******* Note:** A non-hazardous sleeping arrangement includes only a firm mattress and a secure, fitted sheet. Blankets, comforters, etc. should be counted as a hazard for infants (i.e., children less than 1 year of age). If the baby is cold, he or she should sleep in a warm sleeper or sleep sack (with head and arms free).

D. SHARP OBJECT HAZARDS* -7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE 0 ☐ NO HAZARDS OBSERVED → **SKIP TO SECTION E**

-7 = N/A (not able to observe) 0 = No hazards to observe	Baby's BR	Mother's BR	Other BR	LR/FR	Kitchen	Bath- room	Other	Total # Observed
Tally by Room Observed COUNT THE # OF ...								
1. Accessible sharp objects – any item with sharpened edges or points that can cause laceration or puncture wounds (e.g., knives, razors, scissors, ice picks, cork screws, awls, nails, screws, hooks, fireplace poker, skewers, broken glass, hard plastic items, etc.)**								____ ____
2. Other possible laceration hazards - SPECIFY								____ ____

* **Note:** Do NOT include pens or pencils. If both small and sharp object (e.g., pins, needles, staples), count as small ingestible object in Section C, item # 1. If several sharp hazardous items are consolidated into a tray or container (e.g., silverware tray), count as one hazard; otherwise count as separate items even if they are in the same drawer.

E. FIREARM HAZARDS -7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE 0 ☐ NO HAZARDS OBSERVED → **SKIP TO SECTION F**

-7 = N/A (not able to observe) 0 = No hazards to observe	Baby's BR	Mother's BR	Other BR	LR/FR	Kitchen	Bath- room	Other	Total # Observed
Tally by Room Observed COUNT THE # OF ...								
1. Accessible firearms (e.g., guns, rifles, BB pistols, air-pump BB guns, machine guns, etc.) Score all accessible firearms. DO NOT HANDLE ANY FIREARM TO DETERMINE IF LOCKED OR LOADED.								____ ____
2. Other possible firearm hazards - SPECIFY								____ ____

F. FALLING/FALLING OBJECT HAZARDS

-7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE

0 ☐ NO HAZARDS OBSERVED → SKIP TO SECTION G

-7 = N/A (not able to observe) 0 = No hazards to observe	Baby's BR	Mother's BR	Other BR	LR/FR	Kitchen	Bath- room	Other	Total # Observed
Tally by Room Observed COUNT THE # OF ...								
1. Accessible balconies (e.g., absence of doors, safety locks, bars or other barriers to prevent child's access without supervision)								_ _ _
2. Accessible stairways or sets of steps (e.g., lacking gates or other barriers at the top and bottom) or stairs missing banister (should at least have one) or with widely spaced bars (widely spaced = 2 3/8 inches or 60 mm) so the child's head could get stuck. *								_ _ _
3. Accessible windows that the child can reach <u>and</u> that are large enough for child to fit through (approximately 8-10 inches) <u>and</u> are lacking safety locks, a securely attached screen, or bars to keep child from climbing or falling through). **								_ _ _
4. Heavy objects that can fall on child or that child can pull down (e.g., an iron on an ironing board or table).								_ _ _
5. Loose objects that can be pulled over (e.g., tablecloth)								_ _ _
6. Other fall/falling object hazards SPECIFY:								_ _ _

* **Note:** Score each missing gate (top and bottom of each set of stairs) separately. If there are multiple landings, score each full set of stairs separately. Score each stairway missing a banister as one hazard, and stairs with widely spaced bars as one hazard.

** **Note:** Score "large enough" windows without safety devices (e.g., latches or bars) as a hazard only if the child can reach the window (e.g., by climbing on furniture below or next to the window). Bars must be spaced close enough so that the child's head cannot fit through (if not spaced properly, score as one hazard).

G. DROWNING HAZARDS* -7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE 0 ☐ NO HAZARDS OBSERVED → SKIP TO SECTION H

-7 = N/A (not able to observe) 0 = No hazards to observe	Baby's BR	Mother's BR	Other BR	LR/FR	Kitchen	Bath- room	Other	Total # Observed
Tally by Room Observed COUNT THE # OF ...								
1. Accessible bathtubs/sinks containing water or other liquids								_ _ _
2. Accessible buckets of water and other open containers containing non-poisonous liquids such as water**								_ _ _
3. Accessible wading pools. Considered accessible if the pool has water in it and the child can get into it without adult supervision.								_ _ _
4. Open toilet lids								_ _ _
5. Other drowning hazards SPECIFY:								_ _ _

* **Note:** Liquid that is at least ½ inch deep should be recorded as a hazard. Infants can drown from inhaling water, not only from becoming immersed in liquid.

** **Note:** Poisonous liquids (e.g., cleaning detergents) are counted as a hazard under solid and liquid poisonous hazards.

H. STRUCTURAL/PHYSICAL SPACE

1. FLOORS

-7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE 0 ☐ NO HAZARDS OBSERVED → **SKIP TO Q.2**

YES NO

- a. Are cluttered? 1 0
- b. Need repair? 1 0
- c. Have loose scattered rugs? 1 0

2. STAIRS

-7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE 0 ☐ NO HAZARDS OBSERVED → **SKIP TO Q.3**

YES NO N/A

- a. Are steep? 1 0 -9
- b. No handrail on stairwell? 1 0 -9
- c. Are unguarded? 1 0 -9
- d. Are cluttered? 1 0 -9

3. WINDOWS

-7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE 0 ☐ NO HAZARDS OBSERVED → **SKIP TO Q.4**

YES NO N/A

- a. Downstairs windows not screened or covered? 1 0 -9
- b. Upstairs windows not screened or covered 1 0 -9

4. WALLS

-7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE 0 ☐ NO HAZARDS OBSERVED → **SKIP TO Q.5**

YES NO

- a. Plaster cracked and falling down? 1 0

5. CEILINGS

-7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE

0 ☐ NO HAZARDS OBSERVED → **SKIP TO Q.6**

YES NO

a. Plaster cracked and falling down? 1 0

6. CLEANLINESS & POSSIBLE ASTHMA HAZARDS

-7 ☐ N/A--NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE

0 ☐ NO HAZARDS OBSERVED → **END**

YES NO

a. Open garbage? 1 0

b. Spoiled food? 1 0

c. Dust in corners of rooms? 1 0

d. Dust/dirt on tables, surfaces? 1 0

e. Mold on walls, floors, other surfaces? 1 0

f. Rodent/roach droppings on floors? 1 0

g. Cat? 1 0 → IF YES, HOW MANY? h. ____

i. Dog? 1 0 → IF YES, HOW MANY? j. ____

k. Other pets in home? 1 0

l. SPECIFY: _____ → HOW MANY? m. ____

n. SPECIFY: _____ → HOW MANY? o. ____